

OUR desire is to make The Sun a great state paper. We want the people of Florida to feel that, however much they might admire any of the great weeklies printed in other cities, they have in Florida a journal of which they are a part.

We want stories written by Floridians to print in this paper, which is read by Floridians.

We want good stories. We will not print the other kind. The best is good enough for Florida people.

In order to get the good stories we are willing to pay for them, so, we make

An Offer to Florida Writers

We will pay \$20 for the best story, with scene laid in Florida, sent us by January 1st, 1906. The story must be written by a resident of Florida, and must not be less than 2,000 words nor more than 3,000. We reserve the right to print all the stories submitted that do not win the prize at regular rate of \$2 per thousand words, paid on publication.

We will select three competent judges to read the stories and award the prize.

Mail copy to The Sun, Prize Story Contest, Jacksonville, Fla.

Wanted—A New Constitution

When the Constitution adopted by the Constitutional Convention of 1885, went into effect in 1887, it was a fairly good instrument, a fairly good cradle for the infant which was then committed to its sheltering care.

But in twenty years the infant has grown to be a man and the cradle no longer suffices for the repose of its full statured frame.

For this reason it appears to us that a new Constitution for the State of Florida is necessary.

Florida has developed more in population, in resources, in trade, in commerce, in manufactures, in industries, and in all other lines that make a State a place for people to live in, than IN ALL THE YEARS that have elapsed since Ponce de Leon came in search of the fountain.

A fundamental law that would serve to safeguard the rights of the people in a small State where the interests of its inhabitants, because of their fewness, are not diversified, becomes a misfit when the population increases and development follows the increase, and the State has grown great.

The Constitution of 1885 was not a perfect document when it came from the hands of its makers. Many of its provisions were vague in meaning, doubtful in purport, and capable of diverse constructions. Added to these objections is the one that has frequently been flung about in debates in Legislative sessions, and in arguments in legal battles—that so much of the Constitution is statutory and not basic in character, it is difficult to determine what part is fundamental law and what part is enacted law.

We need a new Constitution to clear up this doubt.

Nine Legislatures have come and gone since the present Constitution was adopted. Each tacked on amendments, which changed it; and the sum of these amendments is now a burden on the instrument which WAS NOT STRONG in the first unhampered stages of its existence.

A new Constitution is necessary to get these improvements in concrete form.

Supreme Court decisions handed down for eighteen years have so patched the Constitution that very little of the original cloth is now visible.

A seeker after right in the State's organic law, wades through a mass of learned opinions, sets one against the other, weighs them, sees the bright ray of Constitutional truth across his weary path, AND MEETS "PER CURIAM," which demolishes the structure so patiently reared, shuts out the light and leaves him again groping in darkness.

A new Constitution is needed to clear up the Supreme Court adjudications.

The present Constitution is more legislative enactment and Supreme Court dictum than it is the WILL OF THE PEOPLE in convention assembled.

ALL FUNDAMENTAL LAW SHOULD BE THE DIRECT VOICE OF THE PEOPLE.

When it ceases to be this it ceases to be fundamental law.

The Constitution of 1885 has ceased to be fundamental law.

It is time to call a Constitutional Convention.

Broward Starts Something

"We are afflicted with a sprinkling of editors WHO SELL EDITORIAL FOR SO MUCH AN INCH—sentiment thrown in." Governor Broward in THE SUN, November 18, 1905.

We thought that this statement from the Governor of the State would cause some of the brethren of the press to sit up and take notice.

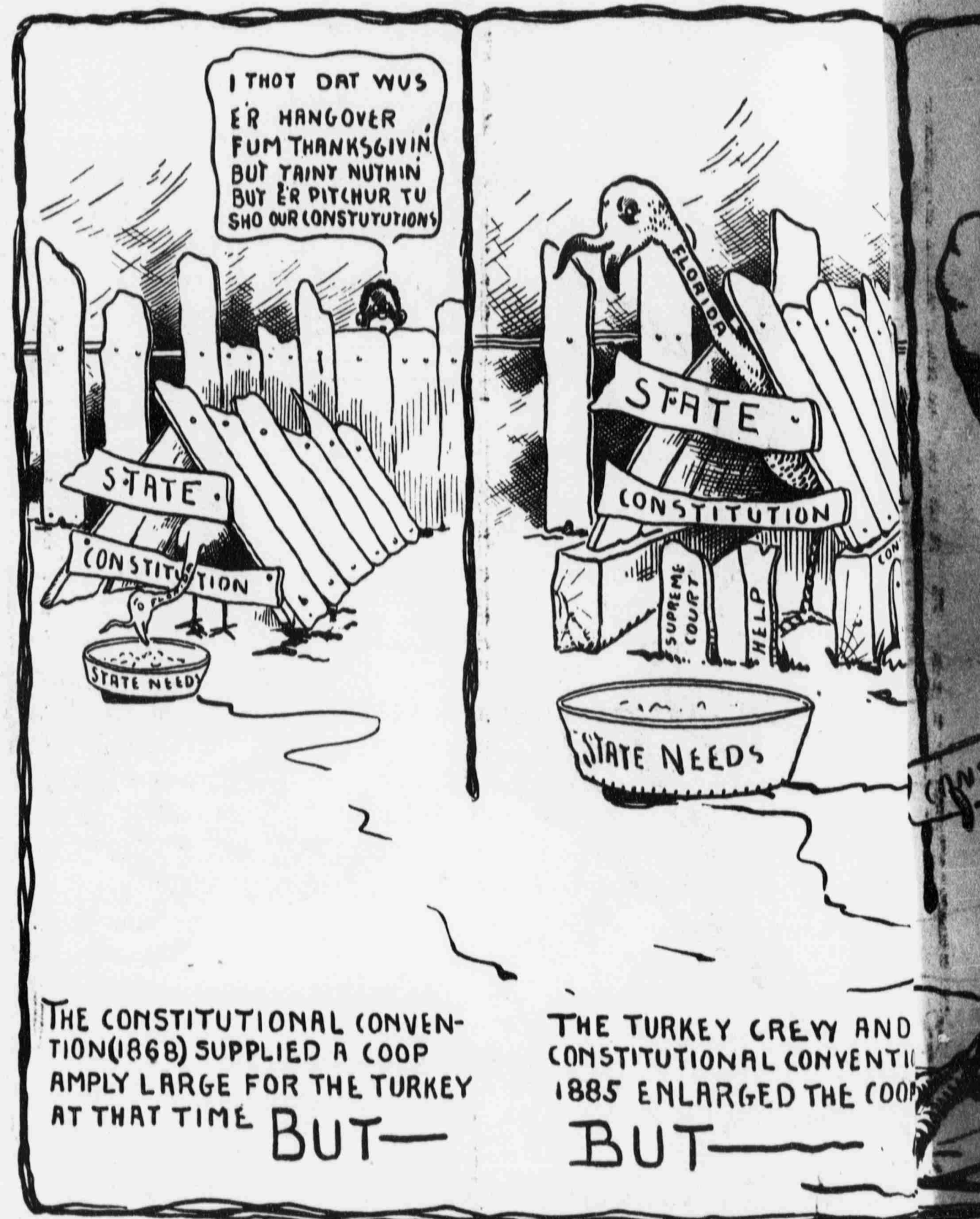
The Governor BOLDLY STATES what others have for some time been whispering in selected corners to discreet acquaintances.

The Monticello News, commenting on this charge of prostitution of the press, made by the Governor, suggests the compiling of a list of the guilty ones.

The Tallahassee True Democrat, shocked by this charge of baseness, demands publicity and punishment for those whom the cap fits.

Far be it from us to judge our brothers, but we agree with the editor of the Monticello News that a list SHOULD BE PREPARED, and we agree with the editor of the True Democrat that those guilty of this corruption should be EXPOSED AND PUNISHED.

So young are we in this journalistic life, that we are not disposed to take up



this cudgel against those who are so much stronger than we are, when the evils are of past committing and no particular good can be accomplished by laying them open to the public gaze.

Of evils that HAVE BEEN we will not speak, unless by keeping silence we should become a party to their continuance and their menace to the future.

Collier's Weekly, in its great expose of the patent medicine fraud, has shown how advertising contracts have influenced the editorial expressions of the press of the country, as to the merits of bills introduced in State Legislatures to regulate the sale of, and to prevent the use of harmful ingredients in, these nostrums.

Our beloved primary law, under the operation of which the press has become a prime factor in political campaigns in this State, has opened wide the door of temptation to the editors, to throw their editorial columns on the bargain counter.

SOME HAVE NOT PUT THIS SATAN BEHIND THEM.

But, as we have written, this is a past evil, and will not be made to feed the mill now grinding, unless the good of the future is threatened by it.

WE HAVE A LITTLE LIST

Which we will keep in a safe place, and if we see those whose names are on it sinning again, we will give it to the editor of the Monticello News, and to all others who read this journal.

Come, brothers, let us not do a merchandising business.

Let us print the news, and keep our editorial page like the wife of Caesar.

The Orlando Reporter admonishes its readers to "Beware of The Stroller," meaning the fakir who comes to your home with things to sell, that can be bought cheaper and of better quality from the local dealer. We suggest a bull dog without chain or muzzle.